



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

**Mission Statement:** Rooted in the community of Gordon Head and the University, in communion with the Roman Catholic Church, Holy Cross Parish serves the people of God by sharing, teaching and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**SUNDAY - May 1st, 2022**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

God has given me the gift of teaching. When I received my Education Degree, I entered the school system with enthusiasm, passion, and a desire to journey together with my students to learn, discover, and grow. After numerous years of teaching, I had an opportunity to further my education with a Master of Divinity and I worked as a Pastoral Associate. Moving back to Saskatoon, I was in between jobs, so I started subbing in the Catholic system thinking I would go back to teaching. My heart wasn't fully committed but it's something I knew, teaching was familiar. It was then that the Lay Formation Coordinator position was posted with the Diocese of Saskatoon, an opportunity to journey with adults that wanted to deepen their relationship with God through prayer, community, and learning. It was God saying, *Mona, cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find...* God calling me 'to be' in the world using the gift of teaching in a different way. I responded to that call and continue to this day.

God has freely given each of us gifts and calls us to use those gifts to build up the kingdom here on earth. Like the disciples in John's gospel, each received gifts to build the church Jesus revealed, yet the past two weeks have thrown them into a whirlwind of despair and desolation. Gathering together on the shore, the smell of the sea, the sight of their fishing boats, and the feel of the nets bring a familiarization, a sense of comfort, albeit an empty comfort, as they return to what they know. All night long they fish yet catch nothing. This dark night of the soul where confusion, bewilderment, and emptiness pursues them is transformed in the early morning light when Divine guidance intervenes and blesses them with an invitation to *cast the net to the right side of the boat*. They obey and their net encompasses an abundance. Jesus calls these seasoned fishers to use their gifts to fish for people, to bring about God's kingdom in a new way.

Jesus never gives up on us. He is always inviting us into a deeper relationship. No matter what we do, Jesus calls us forth, so it's important here to ask, what nets are we caught up in that prevent us from letting God love us? Are we, like Peter, tangled up in the net of self-loathing because of our denial of Jesus? What about the net of not believing that we are worthy or deserving of God's love? Then there's the net of not trusting and having faith in God's Word. So what does Jesus do when we are trapped in this web of lies? He asks us if we love Him; he asks us to focus on that love; he asks us to feed His lambs. Many times during the day Jesus asks us, *do you love me*, and He waits for our response; He waits for us to choose; He waits for our humble, contrite hearts.

Jesus wants us to know our sins and to become aware of how they rupture our relationship with Him. Once we acknowledge them, we can put our full attention on His mercy and love and how He tends to our wounds by healing the void and restoring us into right relationship. Jesus loves us to death and into eternal life! His love knows no bounds for us, fulfills our deepest longings, and calls forth a commitment to *put on Christ* each and every day. Jesus is asking us to get off the fence and "*Follow me!*"

Easter joy, Mona

#### OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed  
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:30pm  
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:00pm  
Fr. William Hann, Pastor

**We acknowledge and respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory Holy Cross Parish stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.**

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**LIVESTREAM MASSES**

**Live Mass broadcast this weekend!** Mass is livestreamed this week from *St. Patrick's Parish on Saturday at 6pm*. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

**EASTER LETTER FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, HOLY CROSS CHAPTER**

Easter is a time for us to reflect and share Christ's teachings. He has brought us together as a family with His love, compassion and forgiveness. The Parishioner's thoughtfulness has enabled our Society to continue supporting marginalized people and their families. Help is given to an inner city school's breakfast and lunch programme. You gave assistance to a single parent, whose child had health issues and required therapy. At Rosalie's Village, another single Mother is taking courses to improve her education, which will enable her to become available for employment. A monthly donation is presented to the Society's food bank, where there is an ongoing need for support for low income families and the homeless. You've continued to maintain missions in Colombia and Zambia. In Colombia, a daycare centre provides free school training for 97 students from very impoverished families. The Zambian donation has paid for the nurse's and teacher's programmes. One of the registered nurses would like to come to Canada. Nex year, Mutinta, a young blind girl will graduate with a teacher's certificate. All the young people are very grateful for these opportunities and without your gifts, they wouldn't be able to fulfill their dreams. We would like to thank you for the continuing prayers and sharing your generosity, which has given hope, joy, encouragement and enriched those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

A blessed Easter Season to everyone with His peace and let us rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Holy Cross SVDP volunteers

**GARDEN OF ELLIS.....(NO TREES OF FORBIDDEN FRUIT)**

Great growing weather and the greenhouses are bursting. Same program with all proceeds going to charity, this year either Mt. St. Mary Hospital or the Ukranian Relief Fund (red cross), your choice.



The *hanging baskets are almost sold out*, but there are lots of flowers and veggies available. We have geraniums, daisies and sunflowers, plus lettuce, basil, zucchini, pumpkins and of course the usual award-winning Gordon Head tomatoes, large and cherries, red and yellow.

You are most welcome to come and view in advance, or order by phone 250-477-6754

Thanks for your anticipated support., Ellis

**LIBRARY CORNER FOR HOLY WEEK**

The Parish Library table in the foyer of the church has been replenished with several of the wonderful books by Pope Francis. On a wide range of topics, they show the great and compassionate heart of our beloved Pope.

**Will those who still have books outstanding by HV Morton on his travels in 1930 to the Holy Land return them (to the foyer table or the Parish Centre) when they are finished reading them, so that they can be incorporated into the Parish Library permanent holdings.**



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

As we slowly get back to normal, we are looking at re-starting some of the valuable programs we had running before the great shut-down. In order to do this we are looking for a fresh slew of volunteers as many of our previous ones have retired or moved on. If you are interested in volunteering your time please consider doing so for our parish! We are currently seeking volunteers to help with the **Children's Liturgy of the Word** program (starting up in September) and the **funeral reception committee** (as needed for funeral receptions). If you would like to learn more about these ministries, time that would be required, and ministry contact information, please call or email the parish office: 250-813-0230 or [office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org) Thank you!!!

**PRAYER REFLECTION**

I go fishing not to find myself but to lose myself. —Joseph Monninger

Jesus is concerned with whether Peter loves him; not whether he acknowledges his doctrine; not whether he has the desire to become a fisherman again, but whether there is affection in his heart.

—Auguste Valensin, S.J.

It is precisely when every earthly hope has been explored and found wanting . . . it is then that Christ's hand reaches out, sure and firm, that Christ's words bring their inexpressible comfort, that his light shines brightest, abolishing the darkness forever.

—Malcom Muggeridge

**NOTE FROM THE DIOCESE**

Please note the following changes to the Diocesan livestream schedule in April. We have also posted these changes at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/dailymasslivestreamed> and <https://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne/about>.

Please note that there are some changes and cancellations coming in May to the Diocesan livestream schedule, please double check their website for accurate times.

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Registration is now open for a Roots of Reconciliation - Indigenous Session Workshop, to be held June 7-10, 2022 at Holy Cross Parish Hall in Victoria.

<https://www.returningtospirit.org/workshopcalendar/roots-of-reconciliation-indigenous-2>

Roots of Reconciliation is a four day workshop facilitated by the team from Returning to Spirit®, an Indigenous-led non-profit organization which has been delivering experiential reconciliation workshops since 2001. The insights developed during the workshop create space for participants to discover how previously-held behaviours, judgements, assumptions or perceptions have kept them stuck in a disempowering story.

**This workshop in Victoria, BC is open to those who are over 18 and identify as Indigenous.** The material at the workshop will be same as that covered at the non-Indigenous session being held May 16-19. By having separate sessions, the facilitators and participants can better focus on the different lived realities of each group. All Roots of Reconciliation workshop participants will be invited to register in the Advancing Reconciliation workshop scheduled for June 27 - 30, 2022.

Each day of the workshop will run from 9:00 am - 4:30 pm. Registration is by donation; please note that accommodation and transportation for participants are not included in registration. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.returningtospirit.org/workshopcalendar/roots-of-reconciliation-indigenous-2>

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

**SATURDAY, April 30th**

3-3:45pm: Confession

4pm Mass: David Gaffney+

**SUNDAY, May 1st**

9am Mass: Special Intention

**MONDAY, May 2nd**

Office Closed/No Mass

**TUESDAY, May 3rd**

9am Mass: Brendan Holden +

**WEDNESDAY, May 4th**

9am Mass: Brendan Holden +

**THURSDAY, May 5th**

9am Mass: Souls in Purgatory

**FRIDAY, May 6th**

9am Mass: Charles von Meuhldorfer +

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*Masks are no longer mandatory indoors, though we do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed. As always, if you are feeling unwell or symptomatic please stay home.*



holy cross church garden head rd. victoria, b.c.

**COLLECTION for April 24, 2022**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 3,600.00
Loose	\$ 265.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,542.00</b>

**THANK YOU CORNER**

Huge and sincere thanks to Anna Mendonca for stepping in while I've been away recovering from recent knee surgery - especially during the Easter Triduum - and organizing our Liturgical Ministry Schedules. Anna, you are indeed one of our parish angels - thank you! - Joanie Bidlake

**Pastor: Fr. William Hann**

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 *after hours*

**Hospital Chaplain:** 250-889-3761

**Administrative Assistant:** Valentina Boyd

250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

**Office Assistant:** Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

**University Chaplain:** Lydia Foch

lfoch@rcdvictoria.org

**Parish Council Chair:** Debra Prior

250-661-0250

**Children's Religious Education:** Barbara Shenton

bshenton@rcdvictoria.org



## **NEWS FROM ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Track and Field is in full swing at SPS! And training is not for the faint of heart. See how hard our kids are working! <https://www.facebook.com/St.PatricksSchool/>

## **MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST**

Sunday, May 8th from 9:30am-12:30pm at St. Patrick's Church, Our Lady of Lourdes Hall. Price is \$30 per family or \$10 per person. This is the first pancake breakfast of the year, hosted by the Knights of Columbus! A great way to spoil the special mother in your life.



## **St Patrick's Local School Council Notice of Annual Public Meeting and \*Elections\***

**AGM Date:** 18 May, 2022

**Time:** 6:30 PM

**Place:** St Patrick's Elementary (in-person subject to confirmation). Zoom option will also be available.

Three seats are available for election. Anyone eligible to vote (parents, staff, parish members) may nominate candidates to Local School Council.

## **DIOCESAN BURSARIES AND AWARDS**

There are a number of bursaries available through the Diocese of Victoria. Anyone interested can access them on the diocesan website [www.rcdvictoria.org](http://www.rcdvictoria.org) under Programs/Bursaries and Awards. Please note that the deadline is July 15, 2022.

**The Jawl Bundon LLP Bursary** (\$2500): for a grade 12 Catholic student who has been accepted to a post-secondary institution. Preference will be given to Indigenous students, and to students who live outside of Greater Victoria and Nanaimo.

**The Blessed Marie Anne Blondin Bursary** (\$1000): for a lay woman who is accepted or enrolled in a program or course for ministry in the Church, such as religious education, social justice, liturgy, social action, care of the sick, etc.

**The Char Deslippe Memorial Award** (\$500): for a teacher working in Island Catholic Schools or a parish catechist serving in children, youth or adult ministry.

## **MARCH FOR LIFE**

**March for Life Victoria!** Thursday May 12, 2022. The March leaves from Centennial Square at 1:45pm. There are some pre-march events happening before hand at various locations. For more information please visit [www.M4LVictoria.ca](http://www.M4LVictoria.ca) There is also a poster in the foyer of the Church.

## **CHURCH ENVELOPES**

There are still a number of unclaimed donation envelopes in the office. If you are no longer using collection envelopes to make your offering please inform the office so your number can be removed.

